



APPENDIX A
CORRECTED ABSTRACT

A communication network element or part, and a method for operating a communication network part are disclosed. The communication network part comprises a first layer for transferring signalling information assigned to a telephone call being processed in the network and a second layer for transferring payload information assigned to the telephone call. An interface couples the network to a further network and comprises a signalling information exchange function and user or payload information exchange function between the network and the further network. The second layer generates an information frame which includes user information of the telephone call being transferred to and from the interface on a direct route assigned to the telephone call within the second layer and selectively suppresses the transfer of an information frame within the second layer if the information frame does not comprise any user information.

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